



July 27, 2005

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION for STATE OF WASHINGTON WATER QUALITY
CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 401 OF THE FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT and
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CONSISTENCY**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the following application has been received for a water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act, pursuant to the requirements of WAC 173-225. For projects in the 15 coastal counties, this application will also be reviewed for coastal zone consistency in accordance with Section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act.

This notice is only intended to inform the public of proposed project, and ask for comments by local, state and federal agencies and the public.

EVALUATION: The decision to issue, deny or condition the water quality certification (WQC) or concur with the applicant's Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency statement, will be based on the following: for WQC, it is necessary for the proposed project to comply with the applicable provisions of the federal Clean Water Act and appropriate State aquatic protection requirements. For a project to be declared consistent under the CZMA program, it must be in compliance with State and Federal Clean Water and Air Acts, the Shoreline Management Act, the State Environmental Policy Act, and other applicable federal and state regulations.

REQUESTORS:	Rob Sanders	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
	342 Matson Road	1101 Tech Center Drive, Suite 115
	Kalama, WA 98625	Vancouver, WA 98683

AGENCY OR CONTACT: Chuck Lobdell, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
(360) 885-2011

PROJECT: Brooks Slough/Skamakowa Wetland Restoration

LOCATION: Two miles east of Skamakowa, Wahkiakum County
Sections 15 & 16, T9N, R6W

RECEIVING WATER: Wetlands adjacent to Brooks Slough

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES: The project proposes to enhance 150 acres of seasonal wetlands adjacent to Brooks Slough by increasing the depth and duration of water retention over 150 acres of the 220 acre project site. This will be achieved by placing a water control structure within the

slough that drains through a pump station, replacing two existing culverts with larger ones, adding "agri-drain control" boxes to the existing culverts, installing a small flap gate to prevent drainage of wetlands, raising the driveway and two agricultural roadways, and building a new berm behind the house to protect it from flooding. The water depths within the enhanced area will range from six inches to 2.5 feet, except in the swale areas where depths may reach slightly more than three feet deep. Wetlands will be gradually inundated in the fall, beginning in late September and will remain inundated until late June, when they will gradually be drawn down. The proposed project is described in more detail in the Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: Total acreage impacted by soil fill/removal activity is approximately 4.53 acres; 3.03 acres of wetlands will be altered by soil removal activities, 1.5 acres of wetland will be filled for berm and road construction. Potential impacts could occur to hydroperiod and denitrification functions over approximately 150 acres from increased water impoundment.

PURPOSE: To enhance 150 acres of seasonal wetlands for wildlife habitat by increasing water depth and duration.

The application and related documents are available for inspections and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays at the aforementioned office of Ecology. Further information may be obtained by calling the Southwest Regional Office Public Disclosure Coordinator, at (360) 407-6799.

Evaluation Criteria: The decision to issue, deny or condition the water quality certification (WQC) will be based on the project's compliance with the applicable provisions of the federal Clean Water Act and all other appropriate State aquatic protection requirements

COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD: Ecology is soliciting comments from the public, State, and local agencies and officials, and other interested parties in order to evaluate the impacts of the activity. Any comments received will be considered to determine whether to approve, condition, or deny a certification for the proposed work. **Comments should be sent to:**

Lori Ochoa
Department of Ecology
PO Box 47775
Olympia WA 98504-7775
loch461@ecy.wa.gov

The comment period will last 21 days, from July 27, 2005 to August 16, 2005.

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